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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/051,765	01/17/2002	Richard J. Fitzpatrick	1932.1110-002	5555

21005 7590 03/10/2003

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EXAMINER

FUBARA, BLESSING M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1615

DATE MAILED: 03/10/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/051,765

Applicant(s)

FITZPATRICK ET AL.

Examiner

Blessing M. Fubara

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-74 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-74 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
 - I. Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 9 and 10, drawn to polymer or copolymer and the method of using said polymer or copolymer to treat microbial infection or to inhibit growth of microorganism, classified in class 424, subclass 78.08.
 - II. Claims 3, 4, 7 and 8, drawn to pharmaceutical composition comprising polymer or copolymer and a method of treating microbial infection with said composition, classified in class 514, subclass 316.
 - III. Claims 11-13, 17-19 and 23-25, drawn to polymer or copolymer and method of treating microbial infection and a method of inhibiting growth of microorganism with said polymer, classified in class 424, subclass 78.17.
 - IV. Claims 14-16 and 20-22, drawn to pharmaceutical composition and method of using said composition, classified in class 514, subclass 108.
 - V. Claims 26, 27, 30, 31 and 35, drawn to polymer or copolymer and method of using said polymer or copolymer, classified in class 424, subclass 78.07.
 - VI. Claim 28, 29, 32-34, 52, 54, 55-58, 62-64 drawn to pharmaceutical composition comprising a polymer or copolymer and method of using said pharmaceutical composition, classified in class 514, subclass 635.
 - VII. Claims 36-38, 42-44, 48-50, 67, 69 and 71, drawn to polymer or copolymer and method of using said polymer, classified in class 424, subclass 78.36.

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- VIII. Claims 39-41, 45-47, 59, 60, 65, 66, 68, 70, drawn to pharmaceutical composition comprising polymer or copolymer and a method of using said pharmaceutical composition, classified in class 514, subclass 332.
- IX. Claims 51, 53 and 61, drawn to polymer or copolymer and method of using said polymer or copolymer, classified in class 424, subclass 78.31.
- X. Claims 72-74, drawn to method of preparing ionene polymer, classified in class 525, subclass 50.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

- 2. Inventions I-IX and X are unrelated. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different modes of operation, different functions, or different effects (MPEP § 806.04, MPEP § 808.01). In the instant case the different inventions differ according to the different polymers and compositions of the various groups.
- 3. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.
- 4. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.
- 5. This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention: Many polymers and pharmaceutical compositions are claimed.

If applicants elect group I, applicants must further elect a single disclosed polymer or copolymer for prosecution on the merit.

If applicants elect group II, applicants must further elect a specific pharmaceutical composition that contains a specific polymer or copolymer.

If applicants elect group III or V or VII or IX, applicants must further elect a single disclosed polymer or copolymer, which defines the elected group, for prosecution on the merit.

If applicants elect group IV or VI or VIII, applicants must further elect a specific pharmaceutical composition that contains a specific polymer or copolymer, which defines the elected group, for prosecution on the merit.

If applicants elect group X, applicants must further elect the preparation of a specific polymer.

In addition, applicants may elect any additional component and claims to additional components that are not named specifically would be classified as non-elected.

Applicants are required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, a polymer or copolymer and pharmaceutical composition comprising polymer or copolymer is generic.

Applicants are advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after

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the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

Should applicants traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

6. A telephone call was made to Carolyn S. Elmore on 03/06/03 to request an oral election to the above restriction requirement, but did not result in an election being made.

Applicants are advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

7. Applicants are reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Blessing M. Fubara whose telephone number is 703-308-8374. The examiner can normally be reached on 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (Monday to Friday).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thurman K. Page can be reached on 703-308-2927. The fax phone numbers for the

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organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-305-3592 for regular communications and 703-305-3592 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1234.

Blessing Fubara
Patent Examiner
Tech. Center 1600
March 6, 2003

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Blessing Fubara", is written over the printed name.